

**Proclamation 8319—America
Recycles Day, 2008**

November 14, 2008

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

On America Recycles Day, we highlight the importance of recycling as a way to safeguard and protect the environment and preserve our precious natural resources.

We live in a country of splendor and beauty, and no matter which State each of us calls home, we all have a responsibility to practice good environmental stewardship. It is in our Nation's best interest that government, businesses, community organizations, and individuals work together to conserve our natural resources. The Environmental Protection Agency, through its Resource Conservation Challenge, is encouraging communities to increase recycling collection. Through the Plug-In To eCycling Campaign, we are working to make it easier for Americans to donate or safely recycle old electronics, including TVs, computers, and cell phones. By recycling we can strengthen local economies, reduce greenhouse gases, conserve natural resources, and save landfill space. Using our resources wisely, we can make our communities more livable and our world a cleaner place for our children and grandchildren.

On this day, we remember our opportunity to preserve the great American landscape through recycling. By continuing to work together, we can maintain and enjoy the beauty of our land for generations to come.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 15, 2008, as America Recycles Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United

States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 18, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on November 19.

The President's Radio Address

November 14, 2008

Good morning. This weekend, I am hosting a summit on the global financial crisis with leaders of developed and developing nations. By working together, I'm confident that with time we can overcome this crisis and return our economies to the path of growth and vitality.

I know many of you listening are worried about the challenges facing our economy. Stock market declines have eroded the value of retirement accounts and pension funds. The tightening of credit has made it harder for families to borrow money for cars, homes, and education. Businesses have found it harder to get loans to expand their operations and create jobs. Many nations have suffered job losses and have serious concerns about the worsening economy.

Nations around the world have responded to this situation with bold measures, and our actions are having an impact. Credit markets are beginning to thaw, and businesses are gaining access to essential short-term financing. It will require more time for these improvements to fully take hold, and there will be more difficult days ahead. But the United States and our partners are taking the right steps to get through the crisis.

As we address the current crisis, we also need to make broader reforms to adapt our financial systems to the 21st century. So during this summit, I will work with other leaders to establish principles for reform, such as making markets more transparent and ensuring that markets, firms, and financial products are properly regulated.

All these steps will require decisive actions from governments around the world. At the

same time, we must recognize that government intervention is not a cure-all. While reforms in the financial sector are essential, the long-term solution to today's problems is sustained economic growth. And the surest path to that growth is free markets and free people.

This is a decisive moment for the global economy. In the wake of the financial crisis, voices from the left and right are equating the free enterprise system with greed, exploitation, and failure. It is true that this crisis included failures by lenders and borrowers, by financial firms, by governments, and independent regulators. But the crisis was not a failure of the free market system. And the answer is not to try to reinvent that system. It is to fix the problems we face, make the reforms we need, and move forward with the free market principles that have delivered prosperity and hope to people around the world.

The benefits of free market capitalism have been proven across time, geography, and culture. Around the world, free market capitalism has allowed once impoverished nations to develop large and prosperous economies. And here at home, free market capitalism is what transformed America from a rugged frontier to the greatest economic power in history.

Just as important as maintaining free markets within countries is maintaining the free movement of goods and services between countries. There are many ways for nations to demonstrate their commitment to open markets. The United States Congress can take the lead by approving free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea before adjourning for the year.

In the long run, Americans can be confident in the future of our economy. We will work with our partners around the world to address the problems in the global financial system. We will strengthen our economy, and we will continue to lead the world toward prosperity and peace.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:50 a.m. on November 14 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on November 15. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 14. The

Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 8

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

November 10

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He then traveled to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, where he visited with wounded U.S. military personnel and presented Purple Heart medals to six service members. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, on the South Portico, the President and Mrs. Bush greeted President-elect Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle. Then, in the Diplomatic Reception Room, they all met with Rear Adm. Stephen W. Rochon, USCG (Ret.), Director of the Executive Residence and Chief Usher. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with President-elect Obama.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan to Camp David, MD, on November 16.

The President announced the designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to attend the Baku Energy Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, on November 14: Samuel W. Bodman (head of delegation); Anne E. Derse; and C. Boyden Gray.

The President announced the designation of Robert O. Blake, Jr., as his representative to attend the inauguration of President-elect Mohamed Nasheed of Maldives in Male, Maldives, on November 11.